

WSDOT I-5 Construction in Seattle and Shoreline

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In this issue:

- I-5 construction in downtown Seattle this weekend; only one lane of southbound I-5 open to traffic
- We Need Your Ideas About Alaskan Way Viaduct Construction
- June 22 Roanoke Noise Walls Celebration
- About this e-mail

I-5 construction in downtown Seattle this weekend; only one lane of southbound I-5 open to traffic

Weekend construction

This weekend, construction crews will finally get back to work on our much-delayed [project](#) to remove and replace pavement on the right lanes and shoulder of southbound I-5 between Union and James Streets and on the James Street exit.

This weekend is the second of four major construction weekends for this project. The next two construction weekends are planned on June 24 - 27 and July 15 - 18. We previously postponed several scheduled weekends due to wet weather.

Weekend lane and ramp closures

At 10 p.m. on Friday, June 17, crews will close:

- three lanes of southbound I-5 from Mercer Street to Spring Street. The Stewart Street exit will remain open.
- the southbound I-5 exit to Union Street.
- the southbound I-5 exit to Columbia/James streets.
- the Howell Street on-ramp to southbound I-5.

These lanes and ramps will then remain closed day and night the entire weekend. The express lanes will be dedicated to southbound I-5 traffic all weekend.

By 5 a.m., Monday, June 20, all lanes and the Union and Howell street ramps will reopen. One of two lanes on the Columbia/ James street off-ramp may remain closed until 5 a.m. Tuesday morning, June 21.

We need your help: plan for traffic congestion

Without drivers' help, traffic could back up from downtown Seattle to Lynnwood in the southbound lanes and to Boeing Field in the northbound lanes.

We need your help to keep traffic moving:

- Plan ahead during construction by getting [real-time traffic](#) information from our Web site, radio or television.
- Use Aurora Avenue (SR 99/Alaskan Way Viaduct) or I-405.
- Allow extra time to get through Seattle during construction and, if possible, adjust your travel schedule.
- Share the ride-[carpool, vanpool, or ride the bus](#).
- Tell your friends: print and post our weekly traffic flier ([download the 162 Kb pdf](#))

During construction downtown Seattle will remain open for business. However, traffic congestion is unavoidable given the freeway lane and ramp closures required. To help keep traffic moving, we will:

- Open the I-5 express lanes southbound throughout weekends when construction is underway.
- Operate the southbound mainline HOV lane as a temporary general-purpose lane.
- Encourage people to use alternate routes: I-405 and State Route 99 (Aurora Avenue/Alaskan Way Viaduct).
- Provide driver information on variable message signs, highway advisory radio and via our toll-free 5-1-1 traveler information phone line.
- Provide extra Incident Response Teams to clear incidents and help drivers

Check out our [Web site](#) for construction and traffic updates, other late breaking news, and detour routes for drivers who would usually use the Howell, Stewart or James ramps.

While we are taking steps to minimize noise, people who live or work close to the construction may hear our construction work. If you have questions or comments about construction noise, please call our 24-hour noise hotline at (206) 768-9052.

We Need Your Ideas About Alaskan Way Viaduct Construction

Governor Gregoire and the Washington State Legislature recently allotted \$2 billion to replace the crumbling Alaskan Way Viaduct. This is about half of the funding necessary to build the tunnel, which is the preferred alternative. The balance of the funding will be raised from local, regional and federal sources. If this funding isn't available, we will rebuild the viaduct to meet current standards. Either way this major construction project will take years to build, and we will need to divert traffic from SR 99 for extended periods of time.

Please join us at our upcoming open houses to give your ideas about on how to keep people moving and businesses thriving during construction. In addition, with the removal of the viaduct there is a unique opportunity to create a waterfront for all. The City of Seattle is preparing a concept plan to decide the future of this area. Your comments and questions will help shape this plan, which will be presented to the Seattle City Council in September.

Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project open houses:

June 21, Tuesday, 4 – 7 p.m.: Downtown Seattle, Benaroya Hall, Recital Hall/Bill and Melinda Gates Lobby. Presentations at 5 and 6 p.m.

June 22, Wednesday, 5 – 8 p.m.: National Guard Armory, Drill Room, 1601 W. Armory Way, Seattle. Presentation at 6 p.m.

June 23, Wednesday, 5 – 8 p.m.: West Seattle High School, Commons, 3000 California Ave. SW, Seattle. Presentation at 6 p.m.

June 22 Roanoke Noise Walls Celebration

We're celebrating the completion of the Harvard Avenue noise wall and the groundbreaking for the Boylston Avenue noise wall, which will be under construction this summer and completed this fall. Please join us on June 22nd, 1:00 p.m., at St. Patrick's Church parking lot, 2702 Broadway Ave. E., Seattle, WA

State Representative Ed Murray, Project Director Maureen Sullivan, and community representative Colleen McGrath will speak. After their comments, the Boylston Avenue project sign will be unveiled and earth will be turned, kicking off the official start of the next stage of noise wall construction.

If you have comments or questions about the I-5 Roanoke Noise Wall project please contact Katherine Betzer at BetzerK@wsdot.wa.gov or (206) 464-1183.

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